

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1, line 14 (counting the structural formulae as one line and disregarding the numbering in the left-hand margin), please delete "optionally" and insert --unsubstituted or--.

Claim 8, line 3, please delete "and" (first occurrence) and insert --or a--;
line 3, please delete "salts and solvates" and insert --salt or solvate--.

Claim 9, line 16, please delete "and" (first occurrence) and insert --or a--;
line 16, please delete "salts and solvates" and insert --salt or solvate--.

Claim 11, line 1, please delete "7" and insert --8--.

Claim 12, line 1, please delete "7" and insert --8--.

Please cancel claims ~~13-21~~ without prejudice or disclaimer and add the following claims to the application:

¹³
~~22~~. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof together with at least one physiologically acceptable carrier or excipient.--

¹⁴
~~23~~. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim ¹³~~22~~ in a form adapted for oral or parenteral administration.--

¹⁵
~~24~~. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim ¹³~~22~~ wherein the active ingredient is 2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-5-methyl-2-[(5-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indol-1-one or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.--

¹⁶
~~25~~. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim ¹³~~22~~ wherein the active ingredient is 2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-5-methyl-2-[(5-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indol-1-one hydrochloride.--

D ¹⁷
~~26~~. A method of treating a condition which ^{is} ~~may be~~ ameliorated by antagonism of 5HT₃ receptors which comprises administering to a patient an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof to relieve said condition.--

¹⁸
~~27~~. A method according to claim ¹⁷~~26~~ wherein the compound of formula (I) is 2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-5-methyl-2-[(5-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indol-1-one or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.--

¹⁹
~~28~~. A method according to claim ¹⁷~~26~~ wherein the compound of formula (I) is 2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-5-methyl-2-[(5-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indol-1-one hydrochloride.--

D ²⁰
~~29~~. A method according to claim ¹⁷~~26~~ wherein the condition which ^{is} ~~may be~~ ameliorated by antagonism of 5HT₃ receptors is anxiety.--

²¹
~~30~~. A method according to claim ²⁰~~29~~ wherein the compound of formula (I) is 2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-5-methyl-2-[(5-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indol-1-one or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.--

²²
~~31~~. A method according to claim ²⁰~~29~~ wherein the compound of formula (I) is 2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-5-methyl-2-[(5-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indol-1-one hydrochloride.--

D ²³
~~32~~. A method according to claim ¹⁷~~26~~ wherein the condition which ^{is} ~~may be~~ ameliorated by antagonism of 5HT₃ receptors is schizophrenia.--

²⁴
~~33~~. A method according to claim ²³~~32~~ wherein the compound of formula (I) is 2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-5-methyl-2-[(5-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indol-1-one or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.--

²⁵
~~34~~. A method according to claim ²³~~32~~ wherein the compound of formula (I) is 2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-5-methyl-2-[(5-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indol-1-one hydrochloride.--

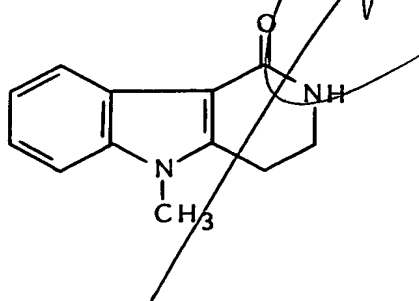
²⁶
~~35~~. A compound according to claim 1 which is 5-ethyl-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-2-[(5-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indol-1-one or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.--

²⁷
~~36~~. A method according to claim ¹⁷~~26~~ for the treatment of irritable bowel syndrome.--

²⁸
~~37~~. A method according to claim ²⁷~~36~~ wherein the compound of formula (I) is 2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-5-methyl-2-[(5-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indol-1-one or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.--

²⁹
~~38~~. A method according to claim ²⁷~~36~~ wherein the compound of formula (I) is 2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-5-methyl-2-[(5-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indol-1-one hydrochloride.--

--39. A process for the preparation of 2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-5-methyl-2-[(5-methyl-1H-imidazol-4-yl)methyl]-1H-pyrido[4,3-b]indol-1-one or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, which comprises alkylating a compound of formula (II)



(II)